Dear Going-Home People,

I am really curious about your language process over the past few days and the problem of you telling me about it is that it lies partly out of awareness. Here are a few random thoughts:

The process this time must bear some resemblance to previous times when you have dunked yourself in an English speaking environment. I wonder that these repeated patterns are like?

I wonder who in this group has helped you most to move forward linguistically? They might have helped you because of the quality of their English* or by simply being the way they are which helped you to really express yourself.

How important has the conscious work that you done been?

How would you evaluate your unconscious work on language? Of course you can only touch the edges of this area. What guesses can you make?

In how many weeks do you think the time will be ripe to evaluate language progress you have made? Clearly today is way too soon, or "well" too soon as 19 year-olds would say.

I wonder if we would have benefited from doing a load more writing over the two weeks? And I mean intelligent, addressee-focused writing.

When you get to the end of this wee text, please work with two colleagues giving your answers to the above questions and then asking more relevant ones and answering those.

It remains only for me to thank you for giving me a full and exciting ten days and for provoking a good level on energy in me. A teacher can only hope to be as useful as his participants allow him and stimulate him to be.....something that not all teenagers realise.*

Warmly yours,

Mario

- Once the good ship K left the harbour with its dangerous ice-floes yesterday morning, she came up with some outstanding, natural, idiomatic English. I mean that once she got over her butterflies in the stomach effect, and once she got into dialogue with us the flow of language was as good as the presentation fascinating, at least in my view.
- A really good book-writing project would be something addressed to teenagers on ways to manage their teachers and learn to get the best out of them, maybe using ideas from the NLP toolbag. It might have a larger market than texts addressed to teachers!